

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Draft Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load

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Clean Water Act Section 303(d): Notice for the Public Review of the Draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Chesapeake Bay

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## Submitter Information

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## General Comment

\*\*\*The Chesapeake Bay will continue to deteriorate into a putrid pool as long as EPA allows agribusiness and developers to trash the surrounding landscape and use the Bay as an open sewer. EPA has spent the past 30 years dodging the conflict and inventing contorted bureaucracies to create the appearance of action, while the destruction of Chesapeake Bay continues. The steps EPA must make to halt its destruction, let alone restore it, are plainly clear. Developers must be stopped from stripping away the forests and wetlands surrounding it, and agribusiness must be stopped from dumping pig and chicken manure into it.\*\*\*

The Chesapeake Bay needs your help. For more than 25 years, scientists have documented the damaging levels of pollution that drain into Bay rivers and streams, leaving many waters unfit for swimming or fishing and depleting once abundant shellfish populations.

The draft Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is a strong step in the right direction. It sets clear pollution limits, deadlines and consequences for failure that would ensure that the job gets done. It would allow states the flexibility to determine how best to achieve results, tap market efficiencies to save businesses and taxpayers money, and provide support and guidance to states and localities to help them make on-the-ground progress.

The Chesapeake Bay can't afford more excuses and delay. I urge you to finalize a strong, accountable final TMDL, and to continue working with the states to ensure that their plans will deliver much-needed results.